



CPEC

California Postsecondary Education Commission

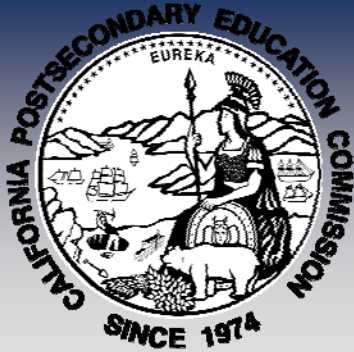
California Community Colleges: Still an Affordable Route to a Degree?

Presented By
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The “Commuter” Student

- Living in the family home
- Not paying rent
- Expenses:
 - Fees, books, food, transportation, miscellaneous



Total Cost: Then and Now

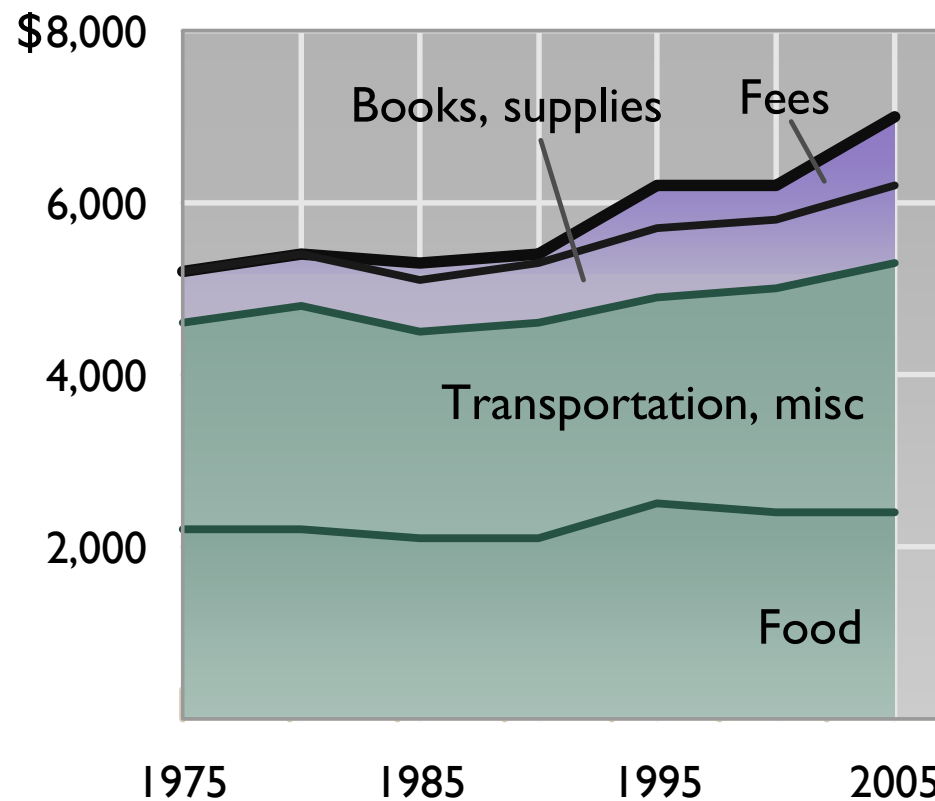
1975: \$1,636 (Prior to implementing fees)

1985: \$3,083

2005: \$6,961



Cost in Constant Dollars*



*2005 Dollars

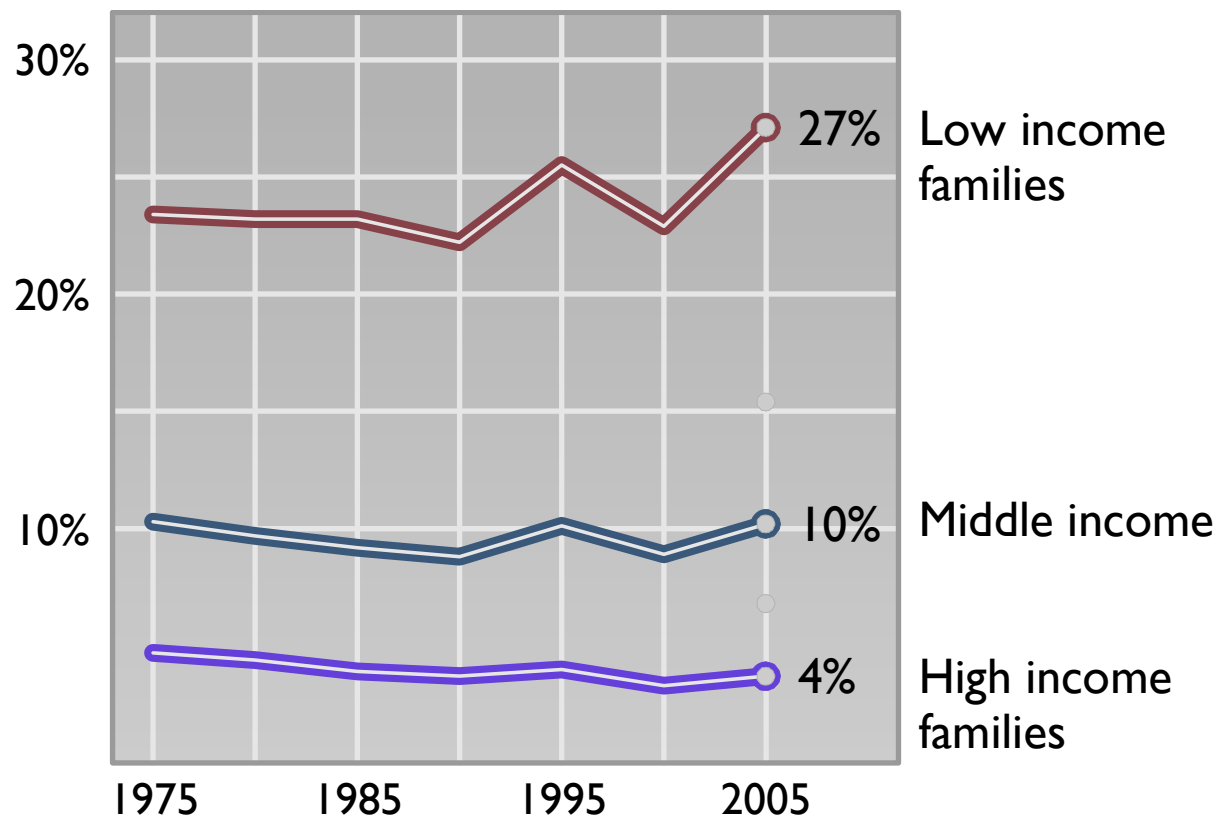


Cost of Living and Wage Stagnation

- Living expenses are 75% of total costs
- Community college fees are still affordable
- Wage earnings for the lowest income groups have not increased at comparable rate to total cost

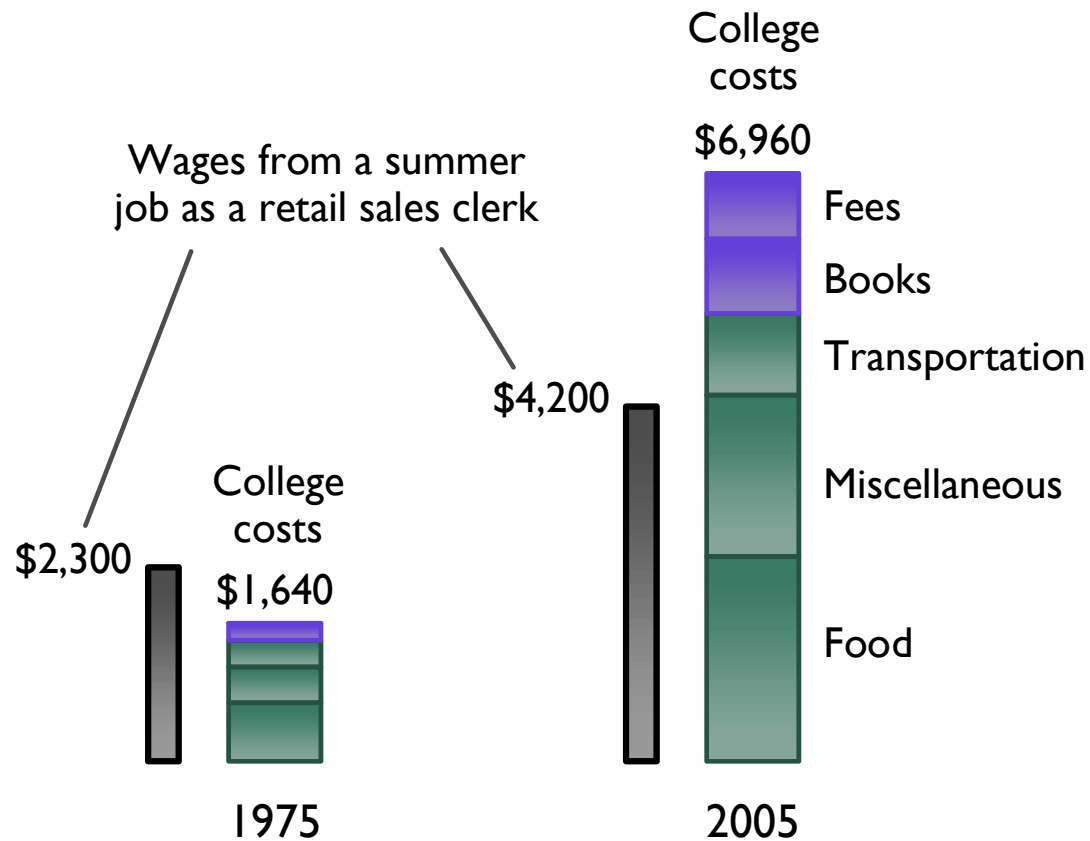


Percent of Income Comparison





The Student Worker

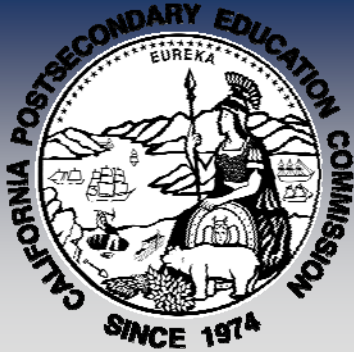




Additional Points

#1:

Rent changes the picture dramatically.



Additional Points

#2:

Living costs are higher now than in 2005.



Additional Points

#3:

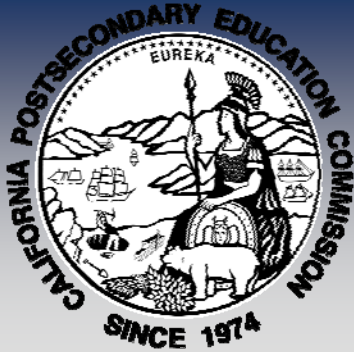
Financial aid data needs to be more reliable.



Additional Points

#4:

State hold on Cal Grant awards this Fall.



Additional Points

#5:

CA living costs jeopardize the “open access” mission of the community colleges.